

Approved For Release 2000/06/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00360050

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. Ev. 50 - 25242

COUNTRY Portugal

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE DISTR. 5 AUG 49

SUBJECT      Attitude of the Portuguese Government  
                 Toward the Opposition

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE 25X1C  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. Prime Minister SALAZAR, although aware of the dangers in Portugal's present economic situation, intends to make no changes in the structure of the Government in order to combat these dangers. Persons who know SALAZAR well state that it would be "completely out of character" for him to do so. According to well-informed opinion SALAZAR would rather resign than suggest such changes as have been attributed to him.

25X1X

2. Supporting SALAZAR in his opposition to change, [REDACTED], are the Ministers of War, Fernando dos SANTOS COSTA, and Interior, Augusto CANCELA DE ABREU, who are most emphatically against change, and the Minister of Justice, Manuel Goncalves CAVALHEIRO DE FERREIRA, who shares their desire to perpetuate the Government as it is. [REDACTED] these Ministers probably would oppose the inclusion of any member of the opposition in the Government and would suggest the forceful suppression of any expression of dissatisfaction by either a segment of the population, or the people as a whole. However, [REDACTED] the fact that the Government hopes to include men in the cabinet known to be sympathetic toward the restoration of the Monarchy in Portugal and in support of SALAZAR's present policy toward the United States and Great Britain.\*

25X1X

3. [REDACTED] true the statement that the opposition has insisted upon publication of a critical analysis of the financial and economic condition of the country and upon official recognition being granted the opposition. On the other hand, [REDACTED] find no truth in reports that the opposition has demanded an amnesty declaration for all persons arrested on charges of political offenses. Such offenses, [REDACTED] are only incidental to criminal offenses. The Communists imprisoned in Terrafal are not political offenders, but criminals who have attacked the security of the State; consequently, there can be no revision of these offenses without a radical change in the penal law.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CLASSIFICATION												<del>SECRET</del>	
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION								
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR		FBI									

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2068

Document No.

NO CHANGE in class.

~~SECRET~~ RECLASSIFIED

~~CLASS. CHANGED TO:~~

PDA Memo, 1 Apr 77

Auth: ~~WDA~~ REG. 77/1763

Approved For Release 2000/06/08 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000000500008-1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

**CONFIDENTIAL**

25X1X

4. The Minister of Justice, [REDACTED] has recently completed an investigation of all persons now in prison for Communist actions.
5. Reportedly, the only opposition leader with whom SALAZAR has been in direct contact is Cunha LEAL; contact with other oppositionists is carried out through Bissaia BARRETO, a close friend of SALAZAR.

25X1A

[REDACTED]

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**